

February 13, 2025

The Honorable Marc Korman  
Environment & Transportation Committee  
House Office Building, Room 251,  
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD, 21401

**RE: MBIA Letter of Opposition HB626 - Real Estate Development and Highway Rights-of-Way - Installation of Broadband Micro Conduits and Microducts**

Dear Chairman Korman,

The Maryland Building Industry Association, representing 100,000 employees statewide, appreciates the opportunity to participate in the discussion surrounding **HB 992 Environment – Delegated Authorities – Well and Septic Program Permits**. MBIA **supports** the Act in its current version.

HB626 would require the installation of micro conduits in any utility easement and building power or telecommunication rooms during the new construction or major improvement of certain commercial and residential premises.

The industry has concerns regarding HB626 due to increasing regulation in the utility process, one that already requires months and years of advance planning to take place. The installation of micro conduits and conduits should not be mandated on all utility easements if new construction/major improvements takes place. Utility easements, space wise are very tight and have strict spacing requirements, adding additional infrastructure could run the risk of being non-compliant due to encroachment on other utility line in the PUE. Also, cases where infrastructure is readily available and a projects can tap in, having to install these micro conduits and conduits could add significant cost and delays to projects.

For these reasons, MBIA respectfully urges the Committee to give this measure a **UN Favorable** report. Thank you for your consideration.

For more information about this position, please contact Lori Graf at 410-800-7327 or [lgraf@marylandbuilders.org](mailto:lgraf@marylandbuilders.org).

cc: Members of the House Environment & Transportation Committee